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NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
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TEXT

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FOR EUR/WE AND L/LEI
E.O. 12356: N/A
TAGS: PGOV, FR
SUBJECT: KLAUS BARBIE UPDATE
1. TRIAL DATE SLIPPING

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FOR COORDINATION WITH State

LYON JUDGE COMPILING DOSSIER ON BARBIE HAS TOLD AMCONSUL
LYON THAT INVESTIGATION OF BARBIE CASE SHOULD BE COMPLETED
BY THE SUMMER OF 1984 AND THAT BARBIE'S TRIAL COULD BEGAIN
IN EARLY 1985. THIS WEEK'S PARIS PRESS, REACTING TO
NOVEMBER 12 STATEMENTS BY BARBIE'S LAWYER JACCUES VERGES
(SEE BELOW) HAS ALSO MENTIONED EARLY 1985 TRIAL DATE.
WHEN ASKED DURING TV INTERVIEW IF HIS CLIENT WOULD EVER
FACE TRIAL, LAWYER VERGES SAID HE WAS "SKEPTICAL".
2. VERGES INTERVIEW JANGLES MANY NERVES

-----OIO-----
A TWO-MINUTE NOVEMBER 12 TV INTERVIEW BY BARBIE'S LAWYER

STATE DEPT. DECLASSIFICATION REVIEW
☐ Retain class'n
☒ Declassify
Change/classify to _____
with concurrence of _____
after _____
EO 12958, 25X
IPS/CR/IR by 90 Date: 8/30/01

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JACQUES VERGES, IN WHICH HE ALLEGED THAT RESISTANCE HERO JEAN MOULIN COMMITTED SUICIDE IN JAIL BECAUSE HE WAS DESPONDENT OVER HAVING BEEN BETRAYED BY YELLOW RESISTANTS, HAS SET OFF A CHAIN OF INDIGNANT REACTION. VERGES WAS PROMOTING HIS JUST-PUBLISHED VOLUME ENTITLED "TO FINISH WITH PONTIUS PILATE" IN WHICH HE RECOUNTS HIS CAREER AS A DEFENDER OF A WIDE VARIETY OF LEFTISTS/TERRORISTS AND NATIONAL LIBERATION FIGURES. ONE CHAPTER OF HIS BOOK IS DEVOTED TO THE BARBIE CASE, IN WHICH VERGES CLAIMS THAT RESISTANCE ELEMENTS OPPOSED TO DE GAULLE INFORMED THE NAZIS OF MOULIN'S WHEREABOUTS IN ORDER TO REDUCE GAULLIST INFLUENCE IN THE RESISTANCE. FORMER RESISTANCE CHIEFS HAVE REACTED WITH INDIGNATION THIS WEEK TO VERGES' CHARGES, WITH SEVERAL CITING DIRECT EVIDENCE THAT SUCH A SUICIDE WAS IMPOSSIBLE.

3. LAWYER CHARGES EVIDENCE FORGED

VERGES HAS THIS MONTH FILED PAPERS AT THE LYON COURT COMPILING EVIDENCE AGAINST BARBIE STATING THAT ONE OF THE KEY DOCUMENTS IN QUESTION IS A FORGERY. VERGES CLAIMS THAT A PHOTOCOPY OF AN APRIL 1944 TELEX WHICH ORDERS THE DEPORTATION OF JEWISH CHILDREN FROM IZIEU BEARS INCORRECT (FRENCH) SEALS AND THAT BARBIE'S SIGNATURE IS FORGED.

4. BARBIE REMOVAL FROM BOLIVIA TO FRANCE APPEAL CONTINUES

FOLLOWING EXHAUSTION OF ALL APPEALS THROUGH THE COMPETENT FRENCH APPEALS COURTS OVER THE MEANS BY WHICH BARBIE WAS BROUGHT TO FRANCE FROM BOLIVIA, LAWYER VERGES HAS DECIDED TO TAKE THIS COMPLAINT TO THE EUROPEAN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION. VERGES HAS TRIED SINCE JUNE, WITHOUT SUCCESS, TO GET HIS TRANSFER TO FRANCE LAST FEBRUARY.

5. MINISTRY OF JUSTICE STILL CONSIDERING TV COVERAGE OF

TRIAL

A COMMISSION ESTABLISHED BY JUSTICE MINISTER BADINTER TO WEIGH ARGUMENTS PRO AND CON THE TELEVISIONING OF BARBIE'S EVENTUAL TRIAL HAS HELD A DOZEN HEARINGS SINCE FEBRUARY WITHOUT REACHING A DECISION. THE REPORT, ORIGINALLY DUE ON JUNE 30, WILL NOW BE FILED IN PRELIMINARY FORM BY THE END OF THE YEAR. GALBRAITH

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